# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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# Situation Report Winter Storm Event January 30, 2009 1:00 P.M.

## UPDATED INFORMATION IN BOLD

#### **SUMMARY**

A Canadian cold front pushed into Missouri Monday, mixing with Gulf moisture and creating hazardous weather conditions. There have been six fatalities reported in weather-related accidents throughout the state. Officials report power is out on more than **104,900** meters across Missouri. National Weather Service indicated that areas in South Missouri had received from ½ to 1" of freezing rain. Other areas had up to 4" of sleet and other areas had up to 7" of snow the further north in Missouri. Governor Nixon directed SEMA to activate the State EOC and signed an Executive Order activating the Missouri National Guard for State Emergency Duty. Governor Nixon has also requested an expedited Declaration of this disaster from the President.

SEMA has activated the State EOC to a level two activation. Appropriate State agencies have reported to the State EOC and are responding to requests from County and City officials.

## Power outages - Utilities:

Ameren UE – 29,400 meters are without power, primarily is southeast Missouri. 1,900 linemen are working to restore power with more coming into the area. An estimated 1,600 poles or more are down due to the storm. Additional resources are being brought in from Illinois (Ameren CIPSCO and Ameren CILCO) this weekend.

**Missouri Electric Cooperatives** – Several cooperatives are reporting **48,500** meters without power. Affected electric Cooperatives and their Outage reports include:

Ozark Border, Poplar Bluff	24,000
SEMO, Sikeston	10,000
Pemiscot-Dunklin, Hayti	6,000
Howell-Oregon	6,000
White River Valley, Branson	2,500

Over a thousand poles are down, in addition to transmission lines.

Missouri Public Utilities Association - An estimated 27,000 meters remain without power.

#### **Counties/Cities Reports:**

**Barry County** – Central Dispatch reports all roads are dangerous and traffic that is moving is doing so very slowly. Two shelters are open and others are on stand-by. Some power outages still in the Shell Knob area. County EOC remains on stand-by. **Barry County still has about 1,000 homes/businesses without power.** 

**Butler County** – Reporting about 80% of population without power. Animal sheltering assistance being requested.

Cape Girardeau County – Power is almost 100% restored. Still some sporadic outages in rural areas in the Southern part of the County. Water service is up for all residents. Warming Center is available. Only shelter was shutdown yesterday.

Carter County – Some restoration to city water and sewer systems being reported. Officials delivered water to elderly and shut-ins in Grandin. Increasing reports of collapsed roofs of sawmills and other businesses. EMD has begun surveying damage. Grandin power back up, but can be sporadic. Opening up a warming center at Grandin. Food and water was delivered to people sheltered in place in City of Grandin as well as in the County. They have had about six or seven roof collapses in the County.

**Christian County** – Some 'slide offs' Monday night. One fatality accident occurred that was weather related. No power outages and no shelters anticipated. No requests for assistance at this time.

**Douglas County** –Still a few power outages. No requests for assistance at this time. EOC is on standby.

**Dunklin County** – 450 people were served at five shelters that were open overnight. 100% power outage reported in county, outside of Kennett which has some limited power. **City of Holcomb has water and sewer but needs immediate assistance in warming shelters.** 

Howell County – Most county roads are impassable. Assistance requested for debris clearance. One shelter was open with 26 people. Working with ARC on water issues for those residents on well water. MONG is assisting with road clearance. Local firefighters are doing wellness checks. One additional building collapsed in West Plains.

**Madison County** – No power outages and crews are working to clear roads. Primary roads are passable, secondary roads are covered with freezing rain/sleet.

Mississippi County – Two shelters are open in East Prairie, which also has outages. 85% power outage in Charleston. Debris clearance is becoming a number one priority. Received two generators – one at Wyatt and one at East Prairie. MONG is doing wellness checks. Charleston water supply is good and they are looking into assisting the other local water districts.

New Madrid County –About 95% of county is without power. Incident Support Team and MONG liaison is in place. They have eight warming shelters in the County. Three of those shelters had approximately 300 people in them overnight. An Entergy line is blocking the water plant and needs to be repaired – Entergy expects to work on this problem Friday. MONG are doing wellness checks. Received water and is currently distributing. Working on special needs. City of New Madrid is about 35% restored to power. City of Portageville continue to work on generators and supplies for their shelters (warming station). Generator for water is working fine, but they need an additional one for their sewage plant.

Oregon County – City of Alton has 30% power out. Power is still out in City of Thayer with numerous outages in rural areas. More trees and poles have broken due to ice. Hwy 19 is 75% clear from Thayer to Shannon County line. Almost all county roads are impassable. Debris handling is a concern. Possible shelter/warming station opening in Alton. Generator problems at the EOC. City of Springfield Utilities linemen are assisting the City of Thayer. EOC is open and have requested an Incident Support Team. Oregon County is under a boil-water order. City of Thayer is contemplating opening a second shelter.

**Ozark County** – Several undetermined outages reported in rural parts of county. About 3,000 residents are without power. One shelter is open.

Pemiscot County – Four shelters are open; one in Hayti had population of 60 Thursday night. City of Caruthersville has two shelters with a population of four. Received generators Thursday night and additional generators are being processed. 100% of the County is still without power. MONG is assisting the recovery.

Ripley County –Two shelters are open in Doniphan and Naylor. 10,000 people in the County are without power. Moved their shelter in Doniphan to larger facility. Twelve MONG are doing welfare checks. Four two-man Conservation teams are clearing roads. Water District #2 lost water pressure, boil water order may be in order.

**St. Francois County -** No reports of power outages. One fatality accident occurred Monday night. Warming shelter and special-needs shelters are on stand-by. EOC is partially activated.

Scott County – About 80% of county is without power. City of Sikeston has been reduced to 0 % power as the large transmission line has collapsed. Expecting a shipment of water in Scott County. Local Fire Dept. and MONG are working on wellness checks. Power at City of Miner is sporadic. Debris removal is a high priority. I-55 and U.S. 62 are open within the City of Miner, side streets are presenting a major problem. Sikeston Hospital is at maximum for critical care and they are going to start diverting patients.

**Stoddard County** – About 55% of county is without power. Requested additional cots for shelters. Still looking for generators, MREs and bottled water. **Received water and MREs. Continued need for four generators for water and lift stations throughout the County** 

Stone County – Some ice is melting from roadways and vegetation. Still some homes without power. One shelter remains open in Kimberling City. Starting to receive calls regarding boat docks damaged by weight of ice and snow on them. Still have 2,500 out of power in the southern part of the county. Roads are being cleared (back roads) and major roads are being cleared. Water system is back up and running.

**Wright County** –Some parts of the county had 6" of sleet accumulation. Roads are still being cleared. No power outages and no shelters anticipated. No requests for assistance at this time.

## **State Agencies:**

- **ESF-1 Transportation** Missouri Department of Transportation shows **107** road closures in Southeast Missouri, mostly power line issues. **All major roads are open**. **MoDOT is assisting local counties with clearing minor roads**. **Commercial Motor Vehicle waivers have been extended to February 5<sup>th</sup>.**
- **ESF-2 Communications** MSHP Communications reports one repeater in Doniphan is back working. Working to get generators to tower sites, which have been operating on battery power.
- **ESF-3 Public Works** DNR/Water is working to assist PSC in getting water utilities to 30 systems. Reminded to issue boiling water orders. They are issuing information on disinfecting water. Conservation has three chainsaw crews moving debris from roads in Ripley, Ozark and Taney Counties, They are also transporting six trailers of cots to Scott, Stoddard and New Madrid Counties.
- **ESF–4/9 Fire/Search and Rescue** Missouri State Fire Marshal indicates **14** firefighters have been sent to affected areas under mutual aid in Kennett. Also providing assistance with Incident Support Team in New Madrid County and wellness checks in Ozark County. Tanker support for Portageville is still there. **They are rotating manpower assignments for the weekend.**

- **ESF–5 Emergency Management -** SEMA is at level two activation and the State EOC is on a 24-hour staffing pattern. SEMA officials would like to encourage local jurisdiction to document their storm-related expenses for potential reimbursement, if a Federal Disaster Declaration is received.
- ESF-6 Human Services Missouri Department of Social Services is working with local jurisdictions to accurately track shelters being opened and possible needs resulting from that. They are working to get additional needed items into the area. Water distribution coming into the Southeast Region to Poplar Bluff. Five FEMA trailers of water going to five different counties. 10 more tractor-trailer loads being donated from Wal-Mart. Cot distribution another trailer load went to Sikeston and most counties that needed them picked them out. A tractor-trailer load of Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) is heading to the distribution center. The Missouri Department of Social Services are working with Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Southern Baptists and other partners on establishing fixed feeding sites in affected areas. Staff from the Department of Social Services has been assisting in shelters, ensuring the safety of foster children and families, and helping to staff EOCs in the affected area.
- ESF-7 Logistics SEMA Logistics is providing generator support 116 generators have been requested, 54 have been installed. Department of Corrections' trucks are taking MRE's and water to Poplar Bluff to be distributed throughout southeast Missouri.
- ESF-8 Public Health Department of Health and Senior Services is monitoring hospitals, long-term care facilities, local public health agencies, and senior and disabled clients. Put out news releases on chainsaw safety and generator safety. Dept. of Mental Health assisting issues with local healthcare providers as needed. DHSS Environmental Health Response team was mobilized to assist with potential food-related issues and sent to Poplar Bluff. Services are being provided out of the Poplar Bluff Center.
- **ESF-10 Hazardous Materials** DNR –EER is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed. Looking into debris management issues.
- **ESF-11 Agriculture** Dept. of Agriculture is monitoring the situation and will respond if needed. **Some poultry issues, but they are being handled.**
- **ESF-12 Energy** DNR Energy reports that both fuel terminals in the area have been cleared and are running. They are working to make sure fuel will be available for distribution in the affected area. Monitoring situations regarding phone tower outages. **Working phone problems with the carriers, especially landlines. Cellular towers are being brought back up throughout the area**.
- **ESF-13 Public Safety** Missouri State Highway Patrol has troopers assisting local jurisdictions as requested, working accidents and keeping highways cleared of accidents. MSHP sent **20** officers and a helicopter, while Missouri State Water Patrol sent **14** officers, to assist in Mississippi, Pemiscot and Scott counties. Criminal problems are reportedly at a minimum. **Water Patrol is helping haul critical supplies.**
- **ESF–14 Long Term Recovery** No report as this time.
- **ESF-15 Public Affairs -** Fielding calls from National networks and issuing press releases.
- **ESF–16 Missouri National Guard** Liaison officers are being dispatched and more soldiers are being called up and ready for assist local jurisdictions. MONG has **183** citizen-soldiers assisting the local jurisdictions in many different locations throughout Southeast Missouri.

**ESF** – 17 Animal Welfare – A Humane Society of Missouri survey team in enroute to Southeast Missouri to assist local jurisdictions. 23 animals rescued to date. Pet food is being delivered to the distribution site.

### **Volunteer Agencies:**

United Way – 211 – Up and running and taking calls. They have received about 200 calls to date.

**American Red Cross** – Assisting with Shelter requests. Need specifics for opening shelter...cots, meals and water numbers would assist in getting them up and running. Working on a long-term feeding plan for the next week.

**AmeriCorps Volunteers** – Two people dispatched to SEOC to support ESF-6. About 40 others were deployed to Butler County to provide assistance at the Black River Coliseum at the distribution center.

Civil Air Patrol -- Ground, air, and communication assets remain on alert to assist if requested.

**Convoy of Hope** – Sent a truck to Poplar Bluff distribution site Wednesday with water and MREs.

**Salvation Army** – Assisting in feeding operations at Joplin shelter and at other sites, as needed. Working with American Red Cross on the feeding situation.

## County Shelter Summary (As of 1/30/09 @ 1000 hrs.)

County	# of Shelters	Current Population
Barry	2	12
Butler	2	520
Cape Girardeau	1	7
Dunklin	5	20
Howell	1	14
Mississippi	1	150
New Madrid	8	750
Oregon	1	44
Ozark	1	4
Pemiscot	3	64
Ripley	2	111
Scott	2	493
Stoddard	3	330
Stone	1	3
Total	33	2522

## Weather:

National Weather Service (St. Louis) High temperatures today (Friday) will warm a bit more into the mid 30s over southeast Missouri and into the mid 40s in the southwest. Highs are forecast to move up into the mid to upper 50s over much of the southern half of the state on Saturday before dropping back to slightly cooler highs from 45 to 55 on Sunday. The next chance of precipitation remains

Sunday night into Monday, likely in the form of rain, which may change into snow. Southeast Missouri may receive up to two inches of snow, but this may change with a later forecast.

# **Point of Contact:**

The State Emergency Management Agency can be contacted at 573-526-9100. This number will be staffed until further notice on a 24-hour basis.